

Listing of the Claims

1. - 41. (cancelled)

42. (currently amended) A keyboard comprising:

an alphanumeric section;

a plurality of keys located behind said alphanumeric section, said plurality of keys each functioning as predetermined command keys in a first mode and standard function keys in a second mode; and

a function lock selector, said function lock selector being actuable to change the functionality of the plurality of keys between said first and second modes and maintain said selected mode until a subsequent actuation of said function lock selector is performed. The keyboard of claim 36, wherein three keys of said plurality of keys are from the set of:

(a) New, Open, and Close keys;

(b) Reply, Forward, and Send keys;

(c) Spell, Save, and Print keys; and

(d) Help, Find, and Desktop keys,

when operated in said first mode.

43.-45. (canceled)

46. (currently amended) A keyboard comprising:

an alphanumeric section;

a plurality of keys located behind said alphanumeric section, said plurality of keys each functioning as predetermined command keys in a first mode and standard function keys in a second mode;

a function lock selector, said function lock selector being actuable to change the functionality of the plurality of keys between said first and second modes and maintain said

selected mode until a subsequent actuation of said function lock selector is performed; ~~The keyboard of claim 36, further comprising:~~

an editing section, said editing section being laterally disposed from said alphanumeric section; and

a key cluster located behind and spaced from said editing section, said key cluster consisting of an Undo key and a Redo key.

47.-49. (canceled)

50. (new) The keyboard of claim 42, wherein said keys of said plurality of keys are arranged in a row, said row being spaced from said alphanumeric section.

51. (new) The keyboard of claim 50, wherein said row includes first, second and third key clusters each consisting of exactly three keys.

52. (new) The keyboard of claim 51, said row of keys further having a fourth key cluster laterally spaced from said first, second, and third key clusters, wherein said fourth key cluster consists of exactly three keys.

53. (new) The keyboard of claim 42, wherein three keys of said plurality of keys each has an upper surface and a front side surface, wherein said upper surface of each said key is labeled with its respective predetermined command as operated in said first mode.

54. (new) The keyboard of claim 53, wherein said front side surface of each said key is labeled with its standard function key label as operated in said second mode.

55. (new) The keyboard of claim 42, wherein said function lock selector includes a Function Lock key.

56. (new) The keyboard of claim 42, further comprising a function lock indicator that indicates whether the keys are operating in said first mode or in said second mode.

57. (new) The keyboard of claim 56, wherein said function lock indicator includes a light-emitting member.

58. (new) The keyboard of claim 46, wherein said keys of said plurality of keys are arranged in a row, said row being spaced from said alphanumeric section.

59. (new) The keyboard of claim 58, wherein said row includes first, second and third key clusters each consisting of exactly three keys.

60. (new) The keyboard of claim 59, said row of keys further having a fourth key cluster laterally spaced from said first, second, and third key clusters, wherein said fourth key cluster consists of exactly three keys.

61. (new) The keyboard of claim 46, wherein three keys of said plurality of keys each has an upper surface and a front side surface, wherein said upper surface of each said key is labeled with its respective predetermined command as operated in said first mode.

62. (new) The keyboard of claim 61, wherein said front side surface of each said key is labeled with its standard function key label as operated in said second mode.

63. (new) The keyboard of claim 46, wherein said function lock selector includes a Function Lock key.

64. (new) The keyboard of claim 46, further comprising a function lock indicator that indicates whether the keys are operating in said first mode or in said second mode.

65. (new) The keyboard of claim 64, wherein said function lock indicator includes a light-emitting member.